

REMARKS**A. Summary of Amendment to the Claims**

By the present response no claims have been amended. Thus, upon entry of the response, claims 1-5 and 7-29 will remain pending in the present application, of which claims 1-5, 12, 14-21, 27 and 29 are withdrawn from examination.

B. Withdrawn Rejections

Acknowledgement is made of the examiner's withdrawal of the rejections of record under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs. The rejections addressed below are the only outstanding rejections in prosecution of the present application.

C. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102

In the Office Action mailed August 10, 2009 the examiner rejected claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by or, alternatively, obvious over U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0142285 (hereinafter "Jung et al."). Applicants respectfully disagree.

Jung et al. is not qualified as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) against the present application.

35 U.S.C. §102(e) provides, in relevant part:

"A person shall be entitled to a patent unless...

"(e) the invention was described in - (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent..."

In the Office Action mailed August 10, 2009 in prosecution of the present application, applicants' priority claim to Korean Applications 10-2003-0051140 and 10-2003-0051826 with filing dates of July 24, 2003 and July 26, 2003, respectively, was again acknowledged by the examiner. Furthermore, in the Final Office Action mailed October 28, 2008 the examiner acknowledged receipt of certified copies of the priority documents.

While translations of the priority documents have not been provided in prosecution of this case, under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.55(4)(i)(B), a translation of a foreign priority document is not required except "...when necessary to overcome the date of a reference relied upon by the examiner..." Applicants respectfully draw the examiner's attention to the Figures of Korean Applications 10-2003-0051140 and 10-2003-0051826, which clearly demonstrate the claimed

CNTs and clearly demonstrate all steps of independent claims 7 and 22. As such, a translation is not necessary to demonstrate priority to such applications. In this respect see the supporting disclosure identified in the following table:

<u>Claim</u>	<u>Text</u>	<u>Support in priority Korean Applications 10-2003-0051140 & 10-2003-0051826</u>
7	A high density carbon nanotube (CNT) film or pattern consisting of laminated CNT layers, wherein the layers are bound together by reaction of a carboxyl group and an amine group and wherein a top layer has exposed carboxyl groups on the surface thereof, and wherein the CNT film or pattern is prepared by a method comprising the steps of:	Fig. 1 of 10-2003-0051140
7(a)	reacting a substrate having amine groups exposed on the surface or a substrate having amine groups exposed in a pattern with CNT having exposed carboxyl groups to form a CNT single layer or single layer pattern on the surface of the substrate by amidation reaction between the amine groups and the carboxyl groups;	Fig. 1A of 10-2003-0051140
7(b)	reacting the CNT single layer or single layer pattern with an organic diamine to modify the CNT single layer with organic amine groups and reacting the organic amine groups with the CNT having exposed carboxyl groups to laminate a CNT layer thereon, wherein the CNT layer is laminated directly on the CNT single layer or single layer pattern by reaction of the amine groups and the carboxyl groups; and	Fig. 1B of 10-2003-0051140
7(c)	repeating step (b) to form laminated CNT layers, thereby forming a high density CNT film or pattern having exposed carboxyl groups.	Fig. 1C of 10-2003-0051140
22	A high density CNT film or pattern consisting of laminated CNT layers wherein the layers are bound together by reaction of a carboxyl group and an amine group and wherein a top layer has exposed carboxyl groups on the surface thereof, and wherein the CNT film or pattern is prepared by a method comprising the steps of:	Fig. 1 of 10-2003-0051140
22(a)	reacting a substrate having amine groups exposed on the surface or a substrate having amine groups exposed in a pattern with CNT having exposed carboxyl groups to form a CNT single layer or single layer pattern on the surface of the substrate by amidation reaction between the amine groups and the carboxyl groups;	Fig. 1A of 10-2003-0051140
22(b)	reacting the CNT single layer or single layer pattern with an organic diamine to form an organic amine layer on the CNT single layer and reacting the organic amine groups with the CNT having exposed carboxyl groups to laminate a CNT layer thereon, wherein the CNT layer is laminated directly on the CNT single layer or single layer pattern by reaction of the amine groups and the carboxyl groups;	Fig. 1B of 10-2003-0051140
22(c)	repeating step (b) to form laminated CNT layers, thereby forming a high density CNT film or pattern having exposed carboxyl groups; and	Fig. 1C of 10-2003-0051140

<u>Claim</u>	<u>Text</u>	<u>Support in priority Korean Applications 10-2003-0051140 & 10-2003-0051826</u>
22(d)	modifying the high density CNT film or pattern having exposed carboxyl groups with a chemical compound having both a functional group capable of binding to a carboxyl group and a chemical functional group selected from the group consisting of amine group, aldehyde group, hydroxyl group, thiol group and halogen;	Fig. 2 and 3 of 10-2003-0051140 and Fig. 1 and 2 of 10-2003-0051826
22	wherein the high density CNT film or pattern has exposed chemical functional groups on its surface, in which the chemical functional groups are any one selected from the group consisting of amine groups, aldehyde groups, hydroxyl groups, thiol groups and halogens.	Fig. 2 and 3 of 10-2003-0051140 and Fig. 1 and 2 of 10-2003-0051826

In view of these priority claims and the substance provided therein, the date of “invention by the applicant” has been shown to be at least as early as July 24, 2003.

Jung et al. was filed on October 27, 2003, which is later than the “invention by the applicant.” Accordingly, Jung et al. is not properly cited as a reference under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Jung et al. is respectfully requested.

As Jung et al. does not properly qualify as a prior art reference, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious over Jung et al. is also respectfully requested.

D. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103

In the Office Action mailed August 10, 2009, the examiner rejected claims 7, 8-11, 13, 22-26, and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,872,681 (hereinafter “Niu et al.”) in view of Jung et al. Applicant respectfully traverses such rejection.

In the rejection at page 7-8 of the Office Action mailed August 10, 2009 the examiner acknowledges that “Niu et al. do not teach the carboxylated CNT/diamine multilayer form or pattern made in the manner set forth in claims 7c and 22c.” Jung et al, is cited to remedy the deficiencies of Niu et al. However, as set forth in detail above, Jung et al. is not properly cited as a reference under 35 U.S.C. §103, as the invention by the applicant was prior to the filing of Jung et al.

Niu et al. alone does not render the claims obvious and Jung et al. is not properly cited as a reference under 35 U.S.C. §103. Accordingly, no basis of *prima facie* obviousness of the

claimed invention is presented by such cited references. Therefore neither of claims 7 or 22 is obvious in view of the cited combination of references.

Claims 7 and 22 are independent claims pending in the present application. All of claims 8-11, 13 and 23-26 depend directly or indirectly from either claim 7 or claim 22. It is well established that if an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. §103, then any claim depending therefrom is nonobvious. *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988). (MPEP §2143.03). It is respectfully submitted that neither of independent claims 7 or 22 is obvious in view of the cited combination of Niu et al. and Jung et al. Correspondingly, dependent claims 8-11, 13 and 23-26 are similarly nonobvious.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 7, 8-11, 13, 22-26, and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Niu et al. in light of Jung et al. is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, all of applicants' pending claims 7-11, 13, 22-26, and 28 are patentably distinguished over the art, and in form and condition for allowance. The examiner is requested to favorably consider the foregoing and to responsively issue a Notice of Allowance.

The time for responding to the August 10, 2009 Office Action without extension was set at three months, or November 10, 2009. Applicants hereby request a two month extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136 to extend the deadline for response to January 10, 2010. Payment of the extension fee of \$245.00 specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(2), as applicable to small entity, is being made by on-line credit card authorization at the time of EFS submission of this Response. Should any additional fees be required or an overpayment of fees made, please debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 08-3284, as necessary.

If any issues require further resolution, the examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at (919) 419-9350 to discuss same.

Respectfully submitted,

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